



When should I keep my child at home?

It's fine to send your child in if they have a cold or a sniffle. But if your child has a temperature, feels lethargic or seems generally unwell – it's best to keep them snuggled up at home rather than bring them into our busy nursery environment.

If your child becomes unwell at nursery, (particularly with a temperature, unusually lethargic or distressed) then we will ask you to come and pick them up. This is for the child's benefit to be at home rather than in our noisy environment when they feel unwell, but also to prevent the spread of infection to other children and staff.

We also reserve the right to send children home if we suspect any of the following highly infectious illnesses, to prevent the spread of them:

	If we suspect this illness we will call you and ask that you collect your child and ...
Chicken Pox	Keep them at home for at least 5 days from when the spots appear or until all the spots have scabbed over.
German Measles & Measles	Keep them at home for 4 days from the onset of the rash / spots appearing.
Conjunctivitis	Please treat their eye infection with eye drops, you can buy these from the Pharmacist or consult your doctor. Your child is fine to return the next day once they have been treated and if you feel they are well enough.
Impetigo	Please take your child to the doctor for antibiotics. They can return to nursery only once the lesions have crusted over or healed, at least 48 hours after commencing the antibiotics.
Ringworm or Threadworm	Please treat your child for worms, with treatment from a Pharmacy or the doctors. Your child can return to nursery 48 hours once their treatment has commenced.
Scarlet Fever	Please take your child to the doctor. They can return 24 hours after commencing appropriate antibiotic treatment.

Diarrhoea and Vomiting	Please keep your child at home for 48 hours from their last episode of diarrhoea or vomiting.
Hand, foot and mouth	Please take your child to the doctor. Your child can return 48 hours after their treatment has commenced and they feel well enough.
Slap Cheek (Parovirus)	Please take your child to the doctor. They can return 24 hours after their treatment has commenced.
Flu	Please keep your child at home for at least 48 hours or until they are well enough to return.
Whooping Cough	Please keep your child at home for 5 days or 21 days from the onset of the illness if no antibiotic treatment.
Head lice	Please treat your child and family at home, comb out all lice and eggs before returning to nursery. Combing should be repeated two / three days after the treatment and again another seven days later to check for any live head lice.
Antibiotics	Please keep your child at home for 48 hours from first taking the antibiotics to ensure they do not have any reaction to them.

We can administer medicine for children who are well enough to return to nursery and are outside of the restriction periods above. Please speak to Ali Thompson or a Supervisor when you drop your child off, you will need to complete a consent form to enable us to administer the medicine. We can only do this for medicine with a prescription label from a doctor which clearly states the child's name.

This guide is based on government guidance from Public Health England: document: [Guidance on infection control in schools and other childcare settings](#)

For more information please view our [Managing medication and illness policy online](#) or the [NHS Guide: When Should I worry.](#)

